

# The Source

May 10, 2023

PRO\*ACT

## Market Updates

**Apples** –The supply of Granny Smiths remains low. As storage season approaches an end, Washington shippers are stepping up Gala packing. There is a good supply of small reds, golds, and Fuji.

**Asparagus** –West Coast product remains tight. There are fewer 28/1 being packed. The majority of suppliers have moved back to 11/1, which has helped volume. Caborca is slowly finishing up. The next region is just getting started. The Washington asparagus season has begun and is helping to fill the pipeline. Michigan asparagus starts in just over a week.

**Avocados** –The market is low across the board for all sizes. The normal crop will end within the next month or two. Floca Loca will be the next crop. There is no word yet on what the peak sizes will be for that crop.

**Bell Peppers** –As both coasts transition to northern areas, supplies remain adequate. Georgia has begun. California's desert season has also begun with reds beginning the week of 5/20. Because of heavy rains this year, we will have a gap in the second week of June as we move to the Central Valley. There is still fruit being harvested in Nogales, but the quality is hit and miss, with most of the fruit being small. Red and yellow peppers are now available from Otag; a promotional volume is available.

**Berries (Blackberries)** –In California, shippers are starting to scratch the surface of this item, which should result in better supplies this week.

**Berries (Blueberries)** –This commodity should remain steady. The product is coming from Central Mexico, Florida, and Georgia.

**Berries (Raspberries)** –The availability of this item remains tight as we wait for the West Coast production to increase in June.

**Berries (Strawberries)** –Fruit availability will improve next week with a decline in Mother's Day demand and better yields in the growing regions of Santa Maria and Oxnard. Salinas and Watsonville are beginning in a very light way on strawberries only.

## Continued

**Broccoli** –The supply of broccoli, including florets, continues to improve. Santa Maria and Salinas have steady supplies. Overall, the quality is above average. Going into the weekend, expect this market to remain steady.

**Brussels Sprouts** –There are very limited supplies of Brussels sprouts. Oxnard normally begins the first of May, but has been pushed back a few weeks. The market is expected to increase as the weekend approaches. Overall, seeders are being reported and it is causing lower yields and smaller sizing.

**Carrots** –The whole carrot supply is in a better position. There is a slight decline in the markets. Imperial Valley's growing season will continue until the mid/end of May. The Bakersfield growing region is next, with no sizing issues predicted.

**Cauliflower** –With the warmer weather, cauliflower supplies are improving in Salinas and Santa Maria. As we approach the weekend, expect this market to continue to adjust lower.

**Celery** –It continues to be a very active market for this commodity. Salinas production won't begin until late June. This week and likely into next week, Oxnard/Santa Maria production will have moderate to light availability. Pith and seeder are among the defects reported upon arrival. This is reported by all shippers. With this commodity, value-added items are escalated.

**Citrus (Lemons)** – District 1 is the main growing region for FCY fruit. District 2 will have more choice-grade fruit as it ramps up. Small fruit is tight due to the rain helping to increase fruit size. The market continues to rise.

**Citrus (Limes)** –The price of lime continues to decline. The availability of large sizes 110s/150s is limited, with manifests peaking on 200s/230s. It is expected that the same trend will continue over the next several weeks as the market settles.

**Citrus (Oranges)** -There is a peak in supplies for 72/88ct. The quality is good. The market for small fruit with significantly less volume is firming up. To help with the shortage of 113/138ct navels, Valencias have begun very lightly.

## Continued

**Cucumbers** –There is a steady market. Next week, eastern supply will transition to Georgia. In the west, supplies are strong coming from several regions, with Baja starting full production by June. Both regions have good quality.

**Eggplant** –It is a steady market. It is also transitioning north. The California desert has started in a light way; Georgia will follow in late May. The quality is good. Nogales will continue through May.

**Garlic** -Throughout the week, California's production is expected to remain steady. It has been reported that the quality is good.

**Grapes (Green)** –There is a real supply gap between South America and Mexico. By the end of this week, grapes may be completely unavailable. Mexican grapes crossing in Nogales won't begin until 5/19, and volume will be minimal. A tight supply period is expected to continue through the first half of June and into May.

**Grapes (Red)** –There is a real supply gap between South America and Mexico. By the end of this week, grapes may be completely unavailable. Mexican grapes crossing in Nogales won't begin until 5/19, and volume will be minimal. A tight supply period is expected to continue through the first half of June and into May.

**Green Onions** –This week, Mexican-grown supplies continue to improve. In Mexico, the warmer weather has helped spur growth. The quality is good overall.

**Kale** –The market continues to be steady. The availability is expected to be moderate to good throughout the week. In general, the quality of the product is good, and the market is stable.

# The Source

May 10, 2023

PRO\*ACT

## Market Updates

**Lettuce (Iceberg)** –In the Salinas Valley, demand is moderate and supplies are improving. Multiple shippers expect better inventories with Oxnard and Santa Maria this week as production has increased. Expect value-added product pricing to ease up starting tomorrow. Liner weights have ranged from thirty-eight to forty-five pounds. Discoloration of the outer leaves and misshapen heads have been reported. Huron is done.

**Lettuce Leaf** – Romaine as well as green and red leaf are more readily available with multiple shippers. After the Mother's Day pull, demand has eased. Value-added items are currently on escalation, but they will likely be off by next week. Next week, supplies of romaine hearts are expected to be stronger. Customers have reported fringe and tip burn, and a slight blister on arrival.

**Lettuce Tender Leaf** –There is still a tight supply of Italian parsley. Because of the heavy rains we had back when the growers were trying to plant the product, the product in Salinas is still behind schedule. Over the next week, we hope the weather in the Salinas Valley warms up and growth improves.

**Melons (Cantaloupe)** –The offshore deal has at most one more week to go. There could have been a start to cantaloupe production from Nogales. It looks like the desert deal will start 10 days later than usual. There is a possibility that it will begin on May 18 or May 22. The market is up and supplies are tight.

**Melons (Honeydew)** –There is still one week left for the offshore deal. It is a mostly steady market for honeydew. There is a light supply on 5/6's. Overall, the quality is good. Honeydews have started in Nogales. Demand is good.

**Melons (Watermelon)** –The offshore fruit is done. There is a steady flow of supplies coming out of Mexico.

**Mushrooms** –Excellent quality and promotable volumes.

## Continued

**Onions** –California is the primary growing region. Supplies are limited. It is recommended to increase lead times for orders.

**Pears** –The market is slightly higher. From May to July, prices will gradually rise as storage supplies run out. The new California Bartlett crop is expected to start July 10th, but could be delayed due to weather.

**Pineapples** –There is a light open market volume. The quality of the product is good, and the market is steady.

**Potatoes** –The market remains extreme. Burbanks are the primary variety shipped. There are more 6-ounce #2s available than in recent weeks.

**Squash** –As Georgia ramps up, the market is weakening. Mexico and Florida are in steady supply. Quality is fair as there is some wind scarring present in some lots coming out of Nogales.

**Stone Fruit** –Peaches, nectarines, and apricots are in season in California. There has been a delay in cherry production due to the cooler weather.

**Tomatoes** –Until July, eastern supply will be lighter out of Florida as we move to newer areas, while Quincy will fill that gap in early June. Currently, western supplies are good as newer areas get going out of Baja and eastern Mexico. Mostly big fruit with good quality. Nogales will continue until early June.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

## Weather

**California** –Low-pressure system exits the area this morning, allowing skies to gradually clear. Daytime highs will be in the upper 50s to mid-70s with morning lows in the upper 30s to low 50s. Temperatures will gradually warm as high pressure moves in the remainder of the week. There will be temperatures in the mid-60s to upper 80s Friday, and heat wave levels over the weekend with upper 60s to low 80s near the coast and mid-80s to mid-90s inland.

**Mexico** –Mostly dry weather during the week, with the chance for showers and T-storms increasing as we approach the weekend. Where showers occur, rainfall totals should range from 0.05" to 0.30", but higher totals may develop within t-storms.








**Florida** –A wet summer pattern will continue on the peninsula through Friday, with scattered and widespread showers and thunderstorms each afternoon and evening. Rainfall totals should be highest in northern Florida today, shifting to central Florida tomorrow and Friday.

**Arizona** –As a result of an upper-level low passing through Central California, strong gusty winds can reach speeds of 40-45 mph today, cooling temperatures below seasonal averages (upper 70s to low 80s). Over the weekend, a high-pressure ridge quickly re-builds, allowing temperatures to rise up to 10 degrees above normal in some locations by Saturday. Friday afternoon highs will be in the mid-90s to 100 degrees, warming up to 95-103 degrees on Saturday.

## Freight

Trucks remain steady in California, Idaho, and the Northwest. The national diesel average continues to drop and is now at 3.922 per gallon. Diesel prices in California are also dropping and are now at 4.847 per gallon.

# Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is high
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is high	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is low	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 AVOCADO	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MUSHROOM	Quality is good, pricing is low
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is low	 EGGPLANT	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is high
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 PEARS	Quality is good, pricing is high
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is high	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is good, pricing is high	 PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is high	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is high
 BROCCOLI	Quality is good, pricing is low	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is fair, pricing is high	 KALE	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 STONE FRUIT	Quality is good, pricing is high
 CARROTS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is high	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is low	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is high		
 CELERY	Quality is fair, pricing is high	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady		